



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 38005-0087

*In re* patent application of

Heinrich HEIDTMANN et al.

Serial No. 09/256,237

Filed: February 24, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1642

Examiner: M. Davis

For: NUCLEIC ACID CONSTRUCT FOR EXPRESSING ACTIVE SUBSTANCES  
WHICH CAN BE ACTIVATED BY PROTEASES AND PREPARATION AND USE

**Reply and Amendment under 37 CFR §1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants herein respond to the Office Action mailed October 10, 2001 (Paper No. 18). Applicants also petition for a two-month extension of time, and provide the requisite fee herewith. Please debit any underpayments, or credit any overpayments, to firm deposit account no. 08-1641. Please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

25. (Thrice Amended) A polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid construct comprising the following nucleic acid sequences in the following order:
- at least one promoter element operably linked to;
  - at least one nucleic acid sequence which encodes an active compound, wherein said active compound is endogenous to mammals, operably linked to;

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